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REMARKS

Applicant's representatives Elliott Mason and Robin Rohlicek thank the Examiner for the telephone interview on March 2, 2006, which was initiated by the Examiner. As requested in the Interview Summary form PTOL-413 mailed by the Examiner on March 7, 2006, and in accordance with MPEP Section 713.04, the substance of the interview is included herein. No exhibits were shown. Applicant's representative described the general subject matter of the application, and in particular, the subject matter of claim 1. Applicant's representatives referred the Examiner to the specification to provide an example of "determining whether a value for each of the runtime parameters is to be externally supplied programmatically," such as on page 17, lines 21-23, which reads: "a determination is then made as to whether the parameter value is to be externally supplied programmatically, such as by an environment variable or a command line parameter (STEP 412)." No amendments were proposed. No agreement was reached.

All pending claims 1, 3 – 5, 8 – 9, 11 – 14, 16 – 18, 21 – 22, 24 – 27, 29 – 31, 34 – 35, and 37 – 39 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by Schematic Capture with MicroSim PSpice (hereinafter "PSpice").

Independent claims 1, 14, and 27

PSpice does not disclose or suggest at least "a graph-based representation of an executable data processing application ... including a graph having vertices representing components and links between components indicating flows of data between such components, at least some of the components comprising data processing components ... [and executing] the data processing application represented by the modified graph-based representation to process at least one flow of data received by at least one data processing component," as recited in each of amended claims 1, 14, and 27.

Instead, PSpice describes an electronic circuit simulation program. The Examiner states in the Office Action (page 2) that PSpice "shows how to create a circuit, e.g., using components and links between components indicating flows of data, how to run the different analyses, and

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how to obtain the results from those analysis," and that PSpice "illustrates 'a graph-based representation of an executable computer application.'"

While the circuit simulation program itself may be an executable computer application, the illustrated circuit schematics represent electronic circuits to be simulated by the circuit simulation program, and thus the circuit schematics may represent inputs to the circuit simulation program, but are not in any sense included in "a graph-based representation of an executable data processing application," as required by amended claims 1, 14, and 27.

The wires of a circuit schematic used for calculating a simulated voltage or current within a simulated circuit do not correspond to "links" that indicate "flows of data". Even if, for the sake of argument, we assume that such was the case (which Applicant does not concede), the circuit elements are not data processing components, and executing the circuit simulation program does not include processing at least one flow of data received by at least one data processing component. Instead, the circuit simulation program analyzes the electrical characteristics of a circuit and presents results of the analysis, as acknowledged in the Examiner's characterization of PSpice.

Applicant respectfully submits that amended claims 1, 14, and 27 are allowable.

Independent claims 9, 22, and 35

PSpice does not disclose or suggest at least "[modifying] the graph at runtime execution of the graph ... by removing such conditional component and all connected flows to such conditional component from the graph before execution of the graph, based on an evaluation of the associated condition and the corresponding associated condition-interpretation for such conditional component," as recited in each of claims 9, 22, and 35.

The Examiner states in the Office Action (page 5) that "the rejection of claim 1 applies to rejection of claims 9, 12, 22, 25, 35, and 38, however, Applicant in claim 9, section (a) claims a conditional component having an associated condition and an associated condition-interpretation." The Examiner goes on to identify in PSpice description of "conditions" for circuit elements and associated "condition-interpretations," and circuits that can be modified or

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executed according to a condition-interpretation. However, even if, for the sake of argument, the Examiner has correctly identified in PSpice the description of "conditions" for circuit elements and associated "condition-interpretations," and circuits that can be modified or executed according to a condition-interpretation (which Applicant does not concede), nowhere does PSpice disclose or suggest removing a conditional component and all connected flows to such conditional component from the graph before execution of the graph, based on an evaluation of the associated condition and the corresponding associated condition-interpretation for such conditional component.

The Examiner suggests that "Applicant needs to provide more detailed language in the claim invention [*sic*]." Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner has not considered all of the language already present in each of claims 9, 22, and 35, which provide limitations not disclosed or suggested in PSpice. Applicant submits that claims 9, 22, and 35 are patentable.

Independent claims 12, 25, and 38

PSpice does not disclose or suggest at least "[modifying] the graph at runtime execution of the graph ... by replacing such conditional component with a flow before execution of the graph based on an evaluation of the associated condition and the corresponding condition-interpretation for such conditional component," as recited in each of claims 12, 25, and 38.

The Examiner states in the Office Action (page 6) that the rejection of claim 9 applies to rejection of claims 12, 22, 25, 35, and 38. However, none of the portions of PSpice cited by the Examiner with respect to the rejection of claim 9, or any other portion of PSpice, teaches or suggests at least "replacing [a] conditional component with a flow before execution of the graph based on an evaluation of the associated condition and the corresponding condition-interpretation for such conditional component." Therefore, Applicant submits that claims 12, 25, and 38 are patentable.

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New dependent claims 40-42

New dependent claims 40-42 are dependent on claims 1, 14, and 27, respectively, and are thus allowable therewith. Furthermore, each of these dependent claims further recites that "the flow of data is received by at least one data processing component from at least one dataset component." Not only does PSpice fail to disclose or suggest executing a data processing application ... to process at least one flow of data received by at least one data processing component, but PSpice also fails to disclose or suggest that the flow of data is received from at least one dataset component. Thus, Applicant submits that claims 40-42 are patentable.

Dependent claims 3-5, 8, 11, 13, 16-18, 21, 24, 26-27, 29-31, 34, 37, and 39

The remaining claims are all properly dependent on one or more of the independent claims, and are thus allowable therewith. Each of these dependent claims adds one or more further limitations, but those limitations are not presently relied upon to establish patentability. For that reason, and not because applicants agree with the examiner, no rebuttal is offered to the examiner's reasons for rejecting these dependent claims.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper.
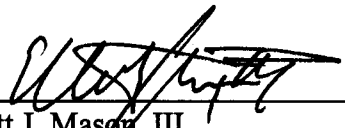
The $75.00 excess claim fee and a $225.00 extension of time fee are being paid concurrently herewith on the Electronic Filing System (EFS) by way of Deposit Account authorization. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050, referencing Attorney's Docket No. 07470-050001.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 8-9-06

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